

Status of the Claims.

1                   1.       (Previously Amended)       In an imaging system including a  
2 system housing and a cartridge opening formed in the system housing, a printing  
3 consumable loading assembly comprising:

4                   a cartridge holding assembly including a guide assembly, the guide  
5 assembly including a series of cooperating spring-loaded levers and motor-driven  
6 cams for guiding the consumable-containing cartridge to a loaded position when  
7 the consumable-containing cartridge is inserted thereby moving the cartridge  
8 holding assembly, the cartridge holding assembly connected to the imaging  
9 system within the housing;

10                  a the consumable-containing cartridge insertable into the guide  
11 assembly, the guide assembly adapted to receive the consumable-containing  
12 cartridge as it is inserted through the cartridge opening of the imaging system  
13 housing, the guide assembly adapted to guide the consumable-containing  
14 cartridge to into an in-use position within the cartridge holding assembly.

1                   2.       (Original)       A printing consumable loading assembly  
2 according to claim 1, further comprising a control actuator connected to the  
3 imaging system and to the guide assembly.

1                   3.       (Original)       A printing consumable loading assembly  
2 according to claim 2, wherein the control actuator comprises an ejection  
3 mechanism connected to the imaging system and to the guide assembly, the  
4 ejection mechanism being adapted and constructed to selectively eject a  
5 consumable-containing cartridge from the holding assembly.

1                   4.       (Original)       A printing consumable loading assembly  
2 according to claim 3, further comprising the following:

3                   a sensor adapted and constructed to sense the quantity of  
4 consumable within the consumable-containing cartridge; and

5 a display located on the system housing, the display being  
6 connected to the sensor to display sensor readings.

1 5. (Original) A printing consumable loading assembly  
2 according to claim 3, wherein the control actuator comprises the following:  
3 a sensor adapted and constructed to sense the quantity of  
4 consumable within the consumable-containing cartridge; and  
5 an electronic latch connected to the sensor and to the ejection  
6 mechanism, the electronic latch being adapted and constructed to automatically  
7 actuate the ejection mechanism to eject the consumable-containing cartridge  
8 when the sensor indicates that the quantity of consumable within the  
9 consumable-containing cartridge is at a predetermined level.

1 6. (Previously Amended) A printing consumable loading  
2 assembly according to claim 1 further comprising a plurality of consumable-  
3 containing cartridges insertable into the cartridge holding assembly of the guide  
4 assembly, the guide assembly adapted to receive the plurality of consumable-  
5 containing cartridges when inserted through the cartridge opening of the imaging  
6 system housing, the guide assembly adapted to guide the plurality of  
7 consumable-containing cartridges into an in-use position within the cartridge  
8 holding assembly.

1 7. Cancelled.

1 8. (Currently Amended) A printing consumable loading  
2 assembly according to claim 7\_1, ~~further comprising wherein the cartridge~~  
3 holding assembly further comprises a registration key mechanism on the  
4 openings in the system housing and the consumable-containing cartridges, the  
5 respective consumable-containing cartridges being configured to fit only into  
6 corresponding openings in the system housing.

1                   9.       (Original)     A printing consumable loading assembly  
2 according to claim 8, wherein the registration key mechanism comprises the  
3 following:

4                   a respective fin on each of the consumable-containing cartridges,  
5 the shape and position of the fin indicating a particular aspect of the consumable  
6 within the cartridge; and

7                   a respective slot in each of the openings, the slots corresponding in  
8 shape and position to the fins on the respective consumable-containing  
9 cartridges.

1                   10.     Cancelled.

1                   11.     (Original)     A printing consumable loading assembly  
2 according to claim 1 40, wherein the cartridge holding assembly includes a  
3 carousel adapted and constructed to hold a plurality of consumable-containing  
4 cartridges, and the guide assembly is mounted within the system housing in a  
5 position aligned for loading cartridges into the carousel, the carousel being  
6 configured to rotate to a first position to receive cartridges loaded via the opening  
7 and the guide assembly, and a second position for image forming.

1                   12.     (Previously Amended)     A printing consumable loading  
2 assembly according to claim 1, further comprising a hinged door over the  
3 cartridge opening in the system housing.

1                   13.     (Currently Amended)     An imaging system comprising:  
2 an imaging system housing;  
3 the imaging system housing including at least one cartridge  
4 opening;

5                   a printing consumable loading assembly including, a cartridge  
6 holding assembly, the cartridge holding assembly including a guide assembly, the  
7 guide assembly including a series of spring-loaded levers and cooperating motor-  
8 driven cams to guide at least one consumable-containing cartridge into an in-use

9 position, the cartridge holding assembly connected to the imaging system within  
10 the housing; and

11 ~~a cartridge holding assembly including a guide assembly, the~~  
12 ~~cartridge holding assembly connected to the imaging system within the housing;~~  
13 ~~and~~

14 the at least one consumable-containing cartridge insertable into the  
15 cartridge holding assembly of the guide assembly, the guide assembly adapted to  
16 receive the at least one consumable-containing cartridge as it is inserted through  
17 the at least one cartridge opening of the imaging system housing, the guide  
18 assembly adapted to transport the consumables cartridge into an in-use position  
19 within the cartridge holding assembly.

1 14. (Original) A printing consumable loading assembly  
2 according to claim 13, further comprising a control actuator connected to the  
3 imaging system and to the guide assembly, the control actuator including an  
4 ejection mechanism connected to the imaging system and to the guide assembly,  
5 the ejection mechanism being adapted and constructed to selectively eject a  
6 consumable-containing cartridge from the holding assembly.

1 15. (Original) A printing consumable loading assembly  
2 according to claim 14, further comprising the following:  
3 a sensor adapted and constructed to sense the quantity of  
4 consumable within the consumable-containing cartridge; and  
5 a display located on the system housing, the display being  
6 connected to the sensor to display sensor readings.

1 16. (Original) A printing consumable loading assembly  
2 according to claim 13, wherein the at least one consumable-containing cartridge  
3 comprises a plurality of consumable-containing cartridges.

1                   17.    (Original)    A printing consumable loading assembly  
2 according to claim 16, wherein the at least one opening in the system housing  
3 comprises a plurality of openings in the system housing.  
4

5                   18.    (Original)    A printing consumable loading assembly  
6 according to claim 17, further comprising a registration key mechanism on the  
7 openings in the system housing and the consumable-containing cartridges, the  
8 respective consumable-containing cartridges being configured to fit only into  
9 corresponding openings in the system housing.

1                   19.    (Original)    A printing consumable loading assembly  
2 according to claim 13, wherein the holding assembly includes a carousel adapted  
3 and constructed to hold a plurality of consumable-containing cartridges, and the  
4 guide assembly is mounted within the system housing in a position aligned for  
5 loading cartridges into the carousel, the carousel being adapted and constructed  
6 to rotate to a first position to receive cartridges loaded via the opening and the  
7 guide assembly, and a second position for image forming.

1                   20.    (Previously Amended)    A method of loading a  
2 consumable-containing cartridge in an imaging system including an imaging  
3 system housing including a cartridge opening formed in the system housing and  
4 ~~a printing consumable loading cartridge holding assembly including a guide~~  
5 ~~assembly having a cartridge holding assembly, the guide assembly including a~~  
6 ~~series of cooperating spring-loaded levers and motor-driven cams for guiding the~~  
7 ~~consumable-containing cartridge to a loaded position when the consumable-~~  
8 ~~containing cartridge is inserted thereby moving the cartridge holding assembly,~~  
9 the guide assembly aligned with the cartridge opening of the imaging system  
10 housing, the method comprising the following steps:

11                         inserting the consumable-containing cartridge into the ~~printing~~  
12 ~~consumable loading cartridge holding~~ assembly through the cartridge opening  
13 formed in the system housing; and

14 receiving the consumable-containing cartridge in the cartridge  
15 holding assembly ~~of the guide assembly~~ as it is inserted through the cartridge  
16 opening of the imaging system housing; and  
17 guiding the consumable-containing cartridge into an in-use position  
18 within the cartridge holding assembly.